

## GMA, solons rally behind De Venecia

By Cynthia D. Balana, Juliet Jewellers and Carlos Pablo

JUST when he took the most likely to lose his leadership of the House of Representatives, Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. secured it.

And the academics, including President Macapagal-Arroyo, have come thick and fast for De Venecia day after day.

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

# PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

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## SC ruling: It's final, Amari-PEA deal void

THE SUPREME COURT, sitting on May 8, 2003 ruling, yesterday declared void the PEA-Amari deal concluded between the Ramona and Amari administrations. The high court denied a second motion for reconsideration from the deal's joint venture partners, the Public Power Authority and the Amari Consortium, involving the sale of some 750 hectares of reclaimed and submerged land in Manila Bay.

website: www.inq7.net

# Anti-coup force revived

## Air, sea, land support for Metro command

By TJ Rangel

THE MILITARY has reactivated a special command to guard Metro Manila against attacks by coup plotters, the extremist group Jemaah Islamiyah and communist rebels.

Gen. Narciso Abaya, Armed Forces of the Philippines chief of staff, has named Maj. Gen. Alberto Rangel, immediate commander of the 7th Infantry Division in Marikina City, as chief of the National Capital Region Command. This command has 5,000 men.

"This will be a command that will handle all major services," Lt. Col. Daniel Lacorte, chief military information officer, said. "There will be no, land and air movements, and the required service support units that would help the unit to be effective in its mission."

The command is also tasked with preventing attacks in nearby areas in Central Luzon and Southern Tagalog.

Abaya notified that the general headquarters in Camp Aguinaldo, which is tasked with coordinating nationwide operations, was alerted to the change of the operations against the soldiers in the absence of a dedicated anti-coup unit.

"We saw the need as a result of the Ombudsman (Lacorte). It was the GRQ which was withdrawing the operations, and that highlighted the fact that there was a need for a unit that should be taking care of various threats in Metro Manila," the AFP chief of staff said.

"We can just imagine if there were operations in other areas during the Ombudsman's visit. That would have been difficult. We felt that there is a strong need to activate what used to be a unit before," he added.

"It would serve the same purpose as in the other area commands. As we all know, the threat of terrorism and even

APRIL 2003/11/11



PEACE ON EARTH

In a role in keeping the peace, the Philippine National Police is now in a more frequent role in the current events prepared in Camp Crame for a season of peace, which is devoted to be held for in this country. SPOT: Rangel/Dyala puts the finishing touches on a display of the season, a Christmas tree of stars.

## 'Brat Pack' learns lesson: The power of public opinion

By Carlos Pablo and Amado N. Hocan

IT WAS a learning experience for the so-called "Brat Pack." But what lesson did the young politicians of the Nationalist People's Coalition, who spearheaded the campaign to impeach Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., actually learn?

Judging from their experience in yesterday's election results, patience, the importance of political will, and the need to secure parliamentary precedents.

"I am young, I am weak," Rep. Michael John Deane (NPC, Iloilo) said in his speech explaining his vote.

With his youth, he can wait for the time when "political will" and not public opinion determines the fate of others of the nation, said Davide, 32.

It was one thing he learned from the time the Davide impeachment case was filed on Oct. 23, Davide said, was the power of "public opinion."

"Public opinion is king," he said, noting that adverse public opinion was the one that killed the Davide impeachment.

STAFF PHOTO: JAC

## Only special priests for sin of abortion

By Blanche Rivera

MOTHERS who abort their babies, their spouses who supported the decision to do so, and doctors who perform abortion cannot just go to any priest for confession.

According to San Fernando Archbishop Narciso Antonio, Catholics are only excused their sin of abortion, which he described as a "heinous sin of great gravity," in hospitals or special priests who could absolve them of their sin.

He said this was done to encourage abortion.

Antonio made the clarification during the launching of the Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (BSP) on the issue of what the Catholic Church believes are sins leading to legal abortion.

The Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines is campaigning against House Bill No. 4110 (Sponsor: Hon. Jose

NOVEMBER 12, 2003

# After impeachment storm, Lakas girds for fallout

By Carlos Pablo and Cynthia D. Balana

AFTER the impeachment storm, comes the political fallout.

The ruling Lakas-CHD party got the House of Representatives ready yesterday morning to elect the Speaker. Even Duterte, the Duterte impeachment, but it may have done so as a snap party.

The Nationalist People's Coalition, which spearheaded the campaign to impeach Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., is considering its alliance with the ruling Lakas-CHD party.

"The alliance is under review. Everything is very fluid," Rep. Harry Angang (NPC, Marikina) said.

With six months to go before the May 10 elections, a withdrawal of the NPC,

the second largest party in the House, from the alliance and a shift of its support to another presidential candidate would likely hurt the electoral chances of the Lakas standard bearer, President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Asked about the 2004 elections, Angang said, "It depends on the coalition."

Remembered that President Macapagal had already declared his intention to

run for reelection and that Lakas centers on the NPC as a political ally, Angang said: "Officially we (the NPC) have no position yet."

Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr., party president of Lakas, cautioned that "some" may have been hurt by the defeat of the Davide impeachment.

But De Venecia remained upbeat that all

NOVEMBER 12, 2003

**Woman sues resto for condom in soup**

LOS ANGELES—A woman is suing a US restaurant chain in California after finding a condom in her clam chowder, reports said Monday.

Linda Salinas, 48, discovered the condom in her clam chowder when she ate it.

NOVEMBER 12, 2003

## Ping snubs road show: It's designed for FPJ

By Christine D. Arendato

PRESIDENTIAL aspirant Sen. Paolo Lacorte is suing and the provincial road show being sponsored by the anti-coup opposition as part of its process to choose its standard-bearer in next year's elections.

Lacorte yesterday said the show was "designed" solely to benefit former star Fernando Poe Jr., its rival for the nomination.

He said he would join the road only if it was clear to him that the anti-coup opposition has taken some up with a selection process for the candidates it would field in the May election. As of now, he said, there was no such process.

"They're reviving the idea of

standard-bearer for FPJ (Poe)," the senator said, referring to Sen. Edgardo Angara and Senate Minority Leader Vicente Sotto III. "It's obvious from the start that they only intend to present their candidates via the media process."

Lacorte said he was not appearing in the road show in Imbabura City on Thursday. Any way, he said, he had to go to Imbabura for a speaking engagement.

The alliance said he had been moving around the country on his own to accept invitations from various groups and organizations.

Last week, Lacorte dropped the last road trip in Baguio City due to a speaking engagement. The trip was supposed to feature the

NOVEMBER 12, 2003



LIKE NINYO, Frederick Villanar, son of Paolo Villanar, snubs his father during a two-hour prayer rally organized by the Council on Philippine Affairs (Copa) in front of the Aquino memorial in Manila City and attended by militant groups. At right is Cope's point man, Boy Sayson. (Story on Page A12).

NOVEMBER 12, 2003







# PEOPLE *at* Work

Editor: Paul D. Hersh  
 Publisher: Editor: Roger Gering-Bayes

## 'How do you deal with a perfectionist boss?'

By Emily Moros  
 Staff Writer, *McGraw-Hill*

I'd working as a market analyst in one of the top multinational companies for several years now. The pay and benefits are definitely higher compared to other companies. However, I am frustrated with my boss. He is a perfectionist and does not consider the feelings of his subordinates. I have observed no other in this company, only such behaviors are being passed by upper superiors. I believe that, be-

### ASK YOUR CEO



effective communication, there must be a two-way process. It should be a give and take relationship. I guess, if every manager or superior can and is ready to accept that his / she is not perfect and can learn from those his / her subordinates and subordinates, no one have bet-

ter working relationships and a less stressful workplace with a learning environment. Can situations like this be regulated? How can I help as let management know that it is necessary that they recognized their rank and the employees? Thank you.

BOB

Let me see if I clearly understand your dilemma.

You have been working for several years now in this company as a market analyst. Do you see a perfectionist

employee. But you are frustrated with your boss because you are not given a chance to give him or her feedback regarding his or her style of management... or because you don't even get a chance to discuss your salary?

If you are employed working under an employer, I would be very surprised to find that the company's performance evaluation system does not even allow for a two-way discussion regarding the ratings received by the boss and the from their subordinates. Most professionally run com-



CEO Michael Moros

panies do not do this usually do to them, perhaps the problem is your boss. Perhaps, so or the boss just doesn't have a voluntary property so to simply not adopt it, or hasn't been trained to do the right way.

### Talk it good

If this is where your problem lies, I would recommend that your boss must start by talking to your subordinates. Simply ask him or her to discuss in more detail the rating you have received. This is a fair request to make. After all, the purpose of an evaluation is so that you can be clear about expectations and where you need to improve. You may also ask for a substantive discussion rating you are given.

If your boss agrees, then you will have the opportunity to explain, yes, how you think your boss can help you become better at your job—what will help you be more productive, or perhaps how certain team-building processes can be made more effective, or even how you can be his sub-

ordinate. Now, this isn't quite a 360-degree evaluation, but it's a good way of giving your superiors some insight into your preferred work style and also a self-way of giving him or her some feedback regarding how you can best be motivated.

### Next recourse

If your boss refuses to do so, then your next recourse is to talk to the HR Director. Explain your problem and ask if the HR person can help resolve it. If the HR Director is a good one, he / she will know what to do. If the HR fails to get your results, then you may consider talking to the chief executive officer, but you should first exhaust the first two options.

Was this always been a problem for you, or was it but the last year or so? What's with the company? It may be that your personality and that of your current superiors are incompatible. If you have the wrong thinking, be otherwise means, there is a good HR Director will be able to spot that and either transfer you to another team, or facilitate a round of discussions to resolve the conflict.

### 360-degree ratings

Now, on the other hand, what you need is a 360-degree evaluation, and where the company has a 360-degree rating system, where that's enough one. You can, then, compare his 360-degree ratings and previous. Such companies are quite diligent in how they to improve their performance, often even on their own.

You'll find that 360-degree evaluations are adopted by culture organizations in government, where senior people are more self confident, and open to receiving feedback and to new ways of achieving results. You are right, thousands of companies are able to create wonderful learning environments for their staff in which they are then rank and file or supervisory level. There are the companies where employees give more than is expected because they feel they have a choice to make.

I know that sounds like an ideal place to work in, but there aren't very many of those places yet. Maybe, where you want to go is not that ideal. If you can find a way of resolving your frustration regarding your situation.

The ideal there is no perfection (in the latter sense) that rating can help you in this particular case. As a perfectionist employee, though, you do have the right to be clearly specified of expectations, and to be able to discuss whether you have achieved them or not.

I hope things work out well for you, Bob.

Best of luck.  
 (Our CEO columns are never requests for career advice through this column. Your request be posted only to the People at Work Editor, Paul D. Hersh, at people@work@mcgraw-hill.com or by mail to: people@work@mcgraw-hill.com.)

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VISITOR FROM ASTANA

# RP wants to buy oil, coal from Kazakhstan

MANILA (AP) — President Arroyo said the Philippines wants to buy oil and coal from Kazakhstan to expand its sources from traditional sources.

"A self-sufficient energy oil and gas product will reduce our dependence on foreign oil and oil exploration," President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo said during a joint news conference with Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev.

The country has most of its trade requirement from land and coastal fisheries in the Middle East, east from China and Indonesia, and southeast primarily from Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and Singapore.

In a separate statement, Arroyo's foreign affairs secretary said "Establishing a strong relationship with Kazakhstan on issues on energy security, industries, and tourism are the priority on the agenda."

Kazakhstan, the world's sixth largest country, is part of the Eurasian with of independent states comprising a region that stretches from the Black Sea to the Pacific. Its population of 17 million in 2000, says its economy was projected to be 10 billion dollars, a decline from the 12 billion it had in the last 10 years.

Early Kazakhstan production of oil and gas is expected to be 1.5 billion barrels in 2011.

During the 10-hour meeting, the Philippines and Kazakhstan signed their bilateral agreement—the first in its establishment since the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1992.

Mr. Macapagal and President Arroyo, the first Kazakh leader to visit the country since the

signing of the RP-Kazakhstan Trade Agreement, signed on bilateral Commerce and Investment in Free Economic and Diplomatic and Official Program Bodies.

Nazarbayev thanked the Philippines' support of his country's application for membership in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and World Trade Organization.

In turn, Mr. Macapagal thanked Kazakhstan's support in the Philippines' successful bid to join the United Nations Security Council and for backing Manila's position for its election to the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

Mr. Macapagal also called on the progress of getting more tourists from Kazakhstan, specially during winter. "Central Asia can be a very good tourist area," she said. "We can offer our tourists."

There are estimates of about 100 Filipinos working in Kazakhstan, most of them in oil exploration and construction. "Legal assistance in these sectors and other areas will be perhaps a mutual demand additional workers," Mr. Macapagal said.

Earlier, Macapagal welcomed Philippine businessmen at a luncheon hosted by the Management Association of the Philippines. The meeting of Kazakh businessmen and their local counterparts is expected to boost trade exports to Kazakhstan, mainly consumer goods like garments and food and processed foods.

Mr. Macapagal issued a news statement last night in honor of Kazakhstan. The visitors leave for Seoul, South Korea tomorrow.

Arroyo, along with 200 Cabinet members, will depart from AP and Bureau.



**PRESIDENT Macapagal and President Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan during their visit to Manila.**







# 'Brat Pack' didn't listen—COA

By Christine D. Arellano

THE CHAIR suggested by the inspection complaint against Chief Justice Mario Davide Jr. could not have come about if the justices in the complaint had given the Commission on Anti-Gratuities the chance to explain its findings on the Judiciary Development Fund.

Representative Felix William "Wings" Francisco and the other disgruntled Justices had accused Davide of misusing the multi-billion-peso JDF as a "private" accountancy listing on the proposed 2004 billion budget of the COA, now under Davide's chairmanship and yesterday that there was nothing singular about the discrepancies found by the agency's audit report on the JDF.

COA men read the No. 1 audit finding of the report: the COA presumed that the House justice committee was that the "validity of the cash is bank account for the JDF cannot be ascertained."

The complaint that this was in because Davide had failed to update the balance of the JDF. The committee in one month since audit was would have to "ascertain" 20,000 transactions, at the expense of filing fees in total costs by 1,377 collecting officers across the country within limited funds.

COA men said dispositive in which the audit committee and research did not search even "even" in all government agencies and even private entities.

"That is the reason why at the end of the month, there must be a monthly bank statement. Otherwise how the house can know the balance of the JDF?" said the committee.

COA chief Francisco Gonzalez said something the JDF existed as "separate" account of funds. "The committee's allegations... to require you prepare a bank reconciliation statement, there would always be a holding at any one time," Gonzalez said.

"Had the House committee on justice continued with the inquiry into the JDF, we would have explained our findings," COA men said.

When Sen. Francis Pangilinan asked COA men whether the committee's audit of the bank balance and JDF books was proof that there was corruption or irregularity in the disbursement of the JDF, he replied in the affirmative.

After the hearing, Pangilinan, chair of the House subcommittee, said that the "discrepancy in the interpretation of the COA is

proof is a result of the failure to reconcile the JDF books and the bank report."

Pangilinan said that there would be a difference in interpreting disbursements of the JDF in

2002 and 2003 because where accounting system was put in place by the COA last year.

"The move could be caused by the old accounting system and the new computerized system," he said.

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# The World

Editor Lawrence B. Gao

## Al-Qaida claims it was behind Saudi blasts

RIYADH—An Arab magazine said Tuesday that it had uncovered a *so-called* plot to perpetrate al-Qaida operations claiming that the terrorist network was behind a series of bombings that killed at least 17 people in the Saudi capital.

Standard US officials already had blamed al-Qaida's attack on al-Qaida, which supports the United States and the Saudi ruling family, but no group has claimed responsibility.

"An Arab magazine" reported that the Saudi-based weekly al-Malah reported a small team of al-Qaida operatives identified as Abu Muhammad al-Buhari as being the brains of the Saudi bombings.

The magazine, which appears in Riyadh, said the team was built over into Riyadh and released a statement about it to the Saudi press on Tuesday.

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interested in her a leading al-Qaida figure known as Abu Bakr.

Among al-Qaida statements that the Arab magazine has published in the past two weeks it said it wanted that the group's operations in Saudi Arabia be in line with the Saudi ruling family's interests.

In long-run Saudi, the magazine of al-Qaida has said the US military was killing 20 people a week in Saudi Arabia. The magazine also said it was determined whether the war was against the United States or the Saudi ruling family, but a number of US commentators have said they were against the Saudi military's actions.

al-Malah magazine also reported previously that it was against a Saudi bombing team of al-Qaida in Saudi Arabia in the last few days of the Saudi bombing in Saudi Arabia. Those bombings in Saudi Arabia were said to be

responsible for the Saudi bombings. al-Qaida's statement said that the bombings were carried out by al-Qaida and al-Qaida's operations in Saudi Arabia were said to be responsible for the Saudi bombings.

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US soldiers carry the flag-draped coffin of a Saudi pilot (center) on Nov. 10 at the Washington Cemetery in Beirut. Other US soldiers and Saudi soldiers were killed in the Nov. 23 blasts that destroyed the Saudi embassy in Riyadh.

## Lynch debunks myths of rescue

NEW YORK—The authorized biography of Pat Tillam Lynch debunks a myth that US troops staged a daring rescue to save him, and describes a long and difficult journey to his home in Iraq.

"I am a soldier, like The American Lynch," published Tuesday, reports a former US Marine who served in the Gulf War.

The biography says that Lynch was killed in action on April 1, 1991, in the Gulf War.

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and  
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## Many Britons disapprove of Bush

LONDON—Many people in Britain believe the international standing of the United States has suffered under President George W. Bush and his administration's handling of the situation in Iraq, according to a new opinion poll published by the Independent.

But the poll also shows that many Britons still support the US position on Iraq.

The poll was conducted by the Independent and shows that 55 percent of Britons support the US position on Iraq.

The poll was conducted by the Independent and shows that 55 percent of Britons support the US position on Iraq.

## Basra explosion kills 4 civilians

BASRA—An explosion on a road near the British base killed four civilians in the southern city of Basra, police said Tuesday.

The explosion occurred on a road near the British base.

The explosion occurred on a road near the British base.

# Sri Lanka president, premier head for collision

**COLOMBO**—Sri Lanka's prime minister has accused an intention to sack the president on Wednesday, but neither appears ready for compromise in a power struggle that threatens efforts to meet peace talks with Tamil rebels.

Cabinet spokesman G.L. Seneviratne said Prime Minister Anura Kumara Disa would hold talks with President Chandrika Kumaratunga, who ordered police to arrest ministers and suspended parliament last week because she felt the prime minister was seeking too many concessions to the rebels.

Ku-Dumawatha was in Pakistan at the time.

He then indicated that Ku-Dumawatha was unlikely to support the president's call for a second, unity government.

"The prime minister believes his goal is the fragility of this government and political map of the country then change," Seneviratne said in a statement on Tuesday.

"This is the main reason we would like to discuss with her as well as the president," he said.

The prime minister would like to negotiate that he resigns the support of 130 members of parliament to support his resignation.

Some of the opposition's 200 members of parliament have joined forces to support his resignation.

They are 122 members of parliament and 127 members of parliament.

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provision and law. The office said the meeting was "between the current administration and the government" and to get Ku-Dumawatha's views on the call for a second. At least 10 of his cabinet members were, with the objective of forming a Government of National Unity.

He said on Monday that Ku-Dumawatha would ask the president to take over the current government if the 2003 election is held.

With Ku-Dumawatha's confidence of his popular support and of keeping the majority in parliament, he will be under pressure from his own party to avoid the risk of a coalition with the president.

For Ku-Dumawatha, who has not joined under the coalition, the government is not a coalition of the government and the government, but a coalition of the government and the government.

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**PORT-CLIMBER**

Branch Minister in the presence of the President, added the "port-climber" to get off the ledge of the building at the City Hall. The President is known to be a port-climber.

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**PHILIPS** **SHARP** **SONY** **SANYO** **DAEWOO** **LG** **COMBURA**  
**SHARP** **SONY** **W** **Whirlpool** **JVC** **Pioneer** **National**  
**DE DECEMBER** **At the December** **ELBA** **DAEWOO**

Free tax for HK vice caps

Free tax for HK vice caps

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Free tax for HK vice caps

**Drugs may help people witness fears**  
NEW YORK (AP)—Scientists say a pill that helps people witness their own fears in a controlled setting may help them overcome their fears. The study, published in the journal *Science*, found that people who took a pill called propranolol before a public speaking test were less likely to experience the same level of anxiety as those who did not. The study was conducted by a team of researchers from the University of Cambridge, and the results suggest that propranolol may be a useful tool for treating anxiety disorders. The researchers found that people who took the pill before a public speaking test were less likely to experience the same level of anxiety as those who did not. The study was conducted by a team of researchers from the University of Cambridge, and the results suggest that propranolol may be a useful tool for treating anxiety disorders.



















# 3 victims of Pentagon kidnapping gang flee

By Susan Cantal-Alban  
PH Mindanao Bureau

CORONADO CITY—After almost two months in captivity, the three security guards taken hostage by the Pentagon kidnapping gang escaped from the hands of their captors in Luganogan (Mindanao) in the border of Maguindanao and North Cotabato provinces, the military report of Brig. Geno Aguirre in Davao, commander of the army's 30th Infantry Brigade, said Thursday. The guards, from Calicut and Karam, all security aides of 19th-century American Michael Deane, 41, 21, escaped on Tuesday evening.

The Pentagon took the three men after a violent kidnapping on Tuesday afternoon in Sept. 17.

However, rescuing them

the United States after killing the 33 military judges, was then visiting his work from in Isulan town where at least 10 Pentagon guards on board a jeep in Isulan.

The escape successfully showed the Pentagon's lack of security, but they were not even powered. The reports had said the three men were at human rights.

During the rescue of the kidnapped, the guards killed at least two police officers.

Deane and the victims escaped while their captors were going into a jeep.

The said three men, captured before in the Luganogan, the victim had a young son named for 18. Deane, 41, was in Maguindanao. They arrived in Isulan town around 5 a.m. Wednesday.

They (Deane) named

Victor Aguirre and Marangking Aguirre as responsible in their abduction, in last case of them. Deane, had been abducted for ransom on Wednesday if they cannot pay ransom," Deane said.

Deane said the kidnapping gang had demanded P50 million for the freedom of the ransom but was lowered to P1.5 million.

The Pentagon gang, headed by former Mao-National Liberation Front (MNLF) leader Falei Marabou, in the late 1990s, was involved in various kidnappings, at least 50 of which were in southern and central Mindanao.

The group was also behind the abduction of five Chinese employees in Zamboanga, North Cotabato and kidnapping of Italian priest Giuseppe Pizzani near Zamboanga last Feb.



**HOLIDAYS**  
Lovers are starting to make their presence felt and brighten up the Makabato Highway in Davao City as the man produces the decorative items in time for Christmas.

## NGO files graft rap vs gov over vehicles

A COALITION of Bulacan-based non-government organizations (NGO) is going after Governor Emilio C. Quezon Jr. for what the coalition said were irregularities in the purchase of 200 motor vehicles.

The Bulacan-based, non-profit Bulacan Citizens for Transparency (BCT), headed by lawyer, Francisco, said, filed the complaint with the Office of the Ombudsman.

In its complaint, the group said the provincial government bought the vehicles from the Quezon Motor Sales of Bul-

acan City, a dealership controlled by the Quezon family.

Investigative and watchdog organizations, however, denied that the top three individuals of Quezon were involved in the purchase of 200 motor vehicles.

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## OFW group raises fears on increase in rice prices

A GROUP of families of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) expressed apprehension over a possible increase in rice prices as a result of the government's refusal to allow the entry of rice being imported by foreign groups.

In a statement, the Philippine Overseas Workers' Welfare Administration (POWWA) urged the government to allow the entry of rice being imported by foreign groups.

The group said the government's refusal to allow the entry of rice being imported by foreign groups would result in a possible increase in rice prices.

The group said the government's refusal to allow the entry of rice being imported by foreign groups would result in a possible increase in rice prices.

The farmers said it is only through these two programs that their economic conditions could be uplifted because they could not rely on their own farming, as the country's agricultural sector is still unorganized and lacks technology to compete with foreign agricultural businesses.

They said the programs also help stabilize local rice prices, benefiting consumers.

They also asked that local Mindanawans, the farmers' representatives in the 19th century, should not speak for them.

These efforts to improve agricultural rice from the private sector in the southern Mindanaw area a plan had been drafted to revive the region's rice industry.

The Southern Mindanaw Coffee

Industry Council Inc. (SMCO), a non-state group with 10 members, produced, and it would plant a million coffee trees and develop at least 5,000 hectares for it.

Luis Llanes, SMCO vice president, said the plan came in the wake of the decreasing coffee production in the area of Mindanaw.

Last 1996, Mindanaw was to supply almost 17 percent of the country's total coffee output.

But due to the erratic price and water conditions that disrupted coffee farmers, the international demand for coffee from the island and the decision of coffee farmers to switch to other crops, Mindanaw's output has decreased by about 60 percent.

With export from Joel Llanes, POI Mindanaw Bureau.

BEST FINDS AT THE CHRISTMAS SHOP EXPO & NOEL DISCOVERY BALAHUB



Handbags and shoes by Jia Co.



Children's clothing by Jia Co.



Christmas decorations by Jia Co.



Christmas cards by Jia Co.



Christmas gifts by Jia Co.



Christmas lights by Jia Co.



Christmas stockings by Jia Co.



Christmas cards by Jia Co.



Christmas gifts by Jia Co.



Christmas lights by Jia Co.



Christmas stockings by Jia Co.



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Christmas lights by Jia Co.



# INQUIRER *Northern Luzon*

 After Jon Bonjovi  
 Says 'No' to the Philippines

## This Aussie restaurant is a maritime museum

 By Timothy Dwyer  
 Daily Inquirer

**T**WO centuries given guests of a unique restaurant experience inside the Salsar's Restaurant. There is a story from the restaurant's history, an area where visitors can see the sailing ship before the wrecked entrance is a restaurant and that had brewed with age.

And to ensure that the ship, the old, though faded and dropped, before anyone to enter and begin a journey and another journey.

It's the first, named after the Philippine Republic. The restaurant was named the Philippines to a very authentic reason. It is built on the exact spot of the sailing vessel of the Spanish and American vessels along the coast of Salsar and filled with various treasures recovered from the depths of the sea.

It is also the backdrop of Salsar's Pub and Restaurant.

Uniquely designed like ships were in the past, the place is not in Salsar, but in the Philippines. The restaurant is a different kind of location in the American town, but open to everyone.

In Manila, it is the restaurant owner in the city. He said everything in his establishment was defined and enhanced by the Salsar Bay which he called "one of the beautiful places in the Philippines."

He said that in 1995, it was after the Manila Bay. They left. He said that the building is a big symbol of a Spanish galleon and another symbol that is completely Salsar Bay. He said that the building is a big symbol of a Spanish galleon and another symbol that is completely Salsar Bay.

Before the building was built, he said that his group was in the Philippines. He said that his group was in the Philippines. He said that his group was in the Philippines.

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By March 2005, he said that his group was in the Philippines. He said that his group was in the Philippines. He said that his group was in the Philippines.

## Antiques

"There are things all over the world. My family is here. I wanted to bring the place back. I was looking for a place, and just happened to see a museum. I was looking for a place, and just happened to see a museum. I was looking for a place, and just happened to see a museum."

The project, he said, did not take off until Salsar Bay. He said that his group was in the Philippines. He said that his group was in the Philippines.

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"I wanted the sailing vessel, it has been divided by the water. The place was closed," he said.

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PMA Carvera is accompanied by a photo-essay writer in Manila, Philippines, during the opening of a photo-essay exhibition in Manila, Philippines.

## German agency cites abuse victim

 By Allan Macanero  
 Philippine Daily

**P**A Carvera, 20, a youth advocate for children's rights who inspired a German Catholic agency to campaign against sex tourism and child abuse, was honored recently for her courage and bravery in pursuing justice against her foreign abuser.

Carvera was only 12 years old when she was sexually abused by a German man in Manila.

Members of the German Catholic Agency for International

Adoption work, brought with them a photo-essay exhibition of Carvera's past experiences with a German man who had been a victim of child abuse.

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# MWCI: Builder violated safety measures

## Water officials mull over sanctions vs contractor for boy's death

By Tina Soren

RE BUILDERS' safety measures, the contractor that dug up portions of Chase Street Avenue in Walnut City where eight-year-old Alexia Aguilera was killed last week, clearly violated the local and state safety requirements of the Midwest Water Company Inc. (MWCI), the public works union contends.

Jeff Lammiman, MWCI vice president and construction manager, said that they have never conducted an investigation of the incident and learned that the water utility workers reported an unsafe condition but have been in the area since the construction firm, but MWCI Builders would not take responsibility for the accident.

In related news, MWCI officials, who contractors claimed that they have complied with the safety measures said in the contract, such as the placing of concrete barriers and the placement of water in the area of work to be done.



**IN THIS CASE**—MWCI excavated on Chase Street Avenue in Walnut City where eight-year-old Alexia Aguilera was killed last week. The photo shows the site where the accident occurred. MWCI Builders would not take responsibility for the accident.

MWCI Builders officials said that although they are not entirely looking into the "substantial violations," when they have been told to be the fact that the site was not properly secured.

They said people, especially children, need to be kept away from the site and that is the main objective of the safety measures.

MWCI Builders, but around the corner to lay 100-ft-long water pipes in portions of Chase Street.

Lammiman claimed that the diggers should have been located up, and covered with concrete and again to prevent anyone from falling in.

He said MWCI Builders did not place a secondary barrier to prevent anyone from falling into the site.

Lammiman added that the contractor should not have been left alone, stating that they should have been supervised by the MWCI.

and it is up with steel plates or steel it is up with plates or steel.

He also said MWCI Builders did not place adequate signs and lights on the site to warn the public of the excavation.

Lammiman also said that they are not including their contract with MWCI Builders to determine what violations occurred.

"Perhaps we would impose a sanction since they violated safety provisions in our contract, that's my view in the MWCI's opinion," Lammiman said.

Melanie Stone-Lapin, MWCI Builders' corporate communications manager, said that they are "doing everything" they can to help out the public.

While Aguilera was on the street where her body was found, she was in a nearby water hole between Chase Street and Chase Street.

Lapin said they are not making any statement to prevent anyone from falling in.

# WPD chief set to reshuffle station heads

By Luke Solovito

A RESTRUCTURE is looming at the Western Piedmont District.

WPD Director Chief Sgt. Peter Hargrave has already formed a panel that would evaluate the performance of the 11 station commanders who are in charge of the district.

This was announced by WPD spokesman Chief Sgt. Gary Agard, who identified the seven members of the panel as deputy director of administration Peter Yag, Assistant Chief, Chief of Staff Bruce Sigs, Commander and Deputy Director for operations, Assistant Chief, Robert Cooper.

The panel would be headed by Hargrave himself.

Agard said that he expects that the panel will evaluate the performance of the station commanders in terms of their ability to lead, manage, and supervise.

The results are expected to be used to improve the performance of the station commanders in their current positions. The panel will also evaluate the performance of the station commanders in terms of their ability to lead, manage, and supervise.

# After buses, MMDA turns to organizing routes for jeepneys

By Margaret Ortiz

THE METROPOLITAN Manila Development Authority (MMDA) began to fully implement its Organizational Route (OR) that it is already planning a new route for jeepneys.

The MMDA has already offered a route to Manila jeepneys to be used in the city. The route is a 100-mile route that will be used in the city. The route is a 100-mile route that will be used in the city.

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## METRO BRIEFS

**She's had enough**  
JACQUELINE BROWN, 23, claimed she has been sexually abused by her boyfriend for the past two years. She is now seeking legal action.

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## Remembering Dacer, Corbito

THE COMMEMORATION of the 10th anniversary of the death of the late Senator Dacer and Corbito will be held at the Manila City Hall on Monday, Nov. 22, at 10:30 a.m.

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## COMPUTER SHOPS RAISED

A National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) report says that the 118 computer shops in Manila have raised their prices. The report says that the prices have increased by 10 percent.

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Completed by L. Hargreaves

Editor: Pradyumn S. Mahapatra  
Assistant Editor: Subramaniam Vithanandam

Sumner's Via Villanova, which is also















Special for BusinessInquirer.com  
Webster's Dictionary of Finance

Editor: Raul O. Manzano  
Assistant Editor: Corrie S. Mariano

# BUSINESS

## T-BILL RATES RISE

# Peso rallies to 55.17 to \$1

By Carlos S. Batson

THE GOVERNMENT'S cost of borrowing continued to go up yesterday even as the peso rebounded following what most traders described as a brief respite from adverse political developments owing to the House of Representatives' decision to let the Supreme Court's decision on the impeachment case against Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr.

The peso yesterday closed at 55.17 to \$1, up almost 20 centavos from 55.36 last Monday.

Despite its improved performance, the peso remained the weakest currency in the region when looking at a basket of its value when the start of the year.

Yesterday, however, the local currency was the second best performer in Asia as it recovered 15.11 to \$1 for dollar purchases at the central bank quoted when several foreign currencies weakened, according to traders.

They said the single bond in Philippine government for as much as \$20 million of the \$200-million treasury portfolio, but instead of selling, the 502 bonds fell when the peso rallied to 55.17 to \$1.

"The peso was influenced positively by the better market sentiment following the decision by the impeachment case. There was also some foreign exchange inflows and stronger regional currencies, particularly in the morning," according to BPI Deputy General Accounts Manager A.

But major regional currencies, particularly the Japanese yen and the Thai baht, closed lower yesterday.

While the peso gained, the rate on four-year treasury bonds rose to 13.23 percent from 12 percent in August. Despite the higher rates, it

## WHAT'S INSIDE

Debit - credit = kupa

Cocktails/B3



**TUDOR**  
Geneva

Model Ref. 98837P

### The Tudor Hydronaut

- Constructed of stainless steel or in a combination of steel and 18ct yellow gold.
- Screwdown winding crown.
- Water-proof tested to 200 meters.
- Scratch-proof synthetic sapphire crystal.
- A selection of 7 dial colors.
- Available in three sizes: Gents, Mid-size, and Ladies.

For service, please contact the Tudor Service Centre  
Christian Plaza, G/F, 121 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City Tel: 811-3320

PURCHASE TUDOR TIMEPIECES AT THE FOLLOWING OFFICIAL TUDOR RETAILERS:

#### CHICAGO

Just RT, Power Plant Mall,  
Rockwell Center

#### CRYSTAL CARM

Upper 5th, SM City, Rock City

#### GREENHILLS WATCH CENTER

G/F, Vero Mall,  
Greenhills Shopping Center

#### HEAR GLASS CENTER

Level 2, Mega A, SM Megamall,  
Rockwell Center

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## CURRENCIES

OCTOBER NOVEMBER



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

55.17 to \$1

Nov 13, 2003

55.36 to \$1

Nov 11, 2003

55.36 to \$1

Nov 11, 2003

55.36 to \$1

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# DBM restricts gov't spending in Q4

By Christine S. Botino

THE DEPARTMENT of Budget Department yesterday said it would soon issue a circular

limiting spending of government agencies in the fourth quarter to ensure that the budget deficit this year would remain within the ceiling of P202 billion.

In particular, the memorandum aims to control contractors' work, so that that accounts for P8 billion of the P20 billion to ensure government spending during the fourth quarter.

Contractors will either be getting of foreign loans that require government funding or the part of the government.

Budget Secretary Danilo R. Reyes said an agreement between the Department of Finance and the DBM, to be signed by both, would serve as the basis for a memo so that there would be no need to require more agencies implementing foreign-funded projects.

Starting October, the budget de-

partment aimed to keep spending within targets. Reyes said the government had kept expenditures within the P70 billion ceiling for October. The government also committed to hit the targets in the remaining two months of the year.

Reyes said a circular would be issued requiring subsequent lines of credit adjustment contracts to wait for confirmation with.

"Receipts of contractors' cash notes will be monitored closely," she said.

The budget department will require agencies to wait for clearance before paying any credits. The memo will allow the DBM to monitor the disbursement is covered by a loan and included in the cash program of the involved agency.

She said that restriction of the circular would ensure maintenance of public funds. A law is needed author-

izing the disbursement of government funds to provide counterpart funding for a particular project.

In 2002, contractors' work reached about P24 billion against a target of only P8 billion and was partly responsible for the swollen deficit of P230.7 billion.

Reyes said the agreement to be signed with the DOF and the DBM would also call for close coordination among agencies involved, as well as to ensure contractors, a loan agreement, and to ensure that the DBM did not continue an automatic approval and implementation of the GEA projects.

In the fourth quarter, the government must spend about P10 billion and come to less than P15.5 billion to keep the deficit within the P12.5 billion target for the last three months.

## Domestic bond flotation shelved

LOCAL, but not yet issued, could make a \$200-million bond-raising program for infrastructure or tourism projects the Department of Finance is shelving a domestic bond flotation. Starting through the fourth quarter, the dollar deposit rates, interest, National Treasury Secretary Danilo Reyes said the government had decided to go for an offshore bond of dollar bonds. Reyes said the dollar bonds would raise a total of \$200 million to be used for the P1.5-billion pre-bidding for 2004.

"We have to be sure we don't want to complete the vision. The actual bonds would have been dropped while a new dollar bond will be free of risk," Reyes said. A dollar bond issue will include the United States is called a zero-dollar bond, which is, however, dollar can have a zero-denominated bond issue. Government sources said the Philippines' upcoming bond issue would be successful in Asia.

The \$200-million, three-year bond issue will be the last foreign currency borrowing for the year although the government would continue to tap the local market for funds.

Reyes said the remaining financing requirement for 2004 was \$100 million, which he expected to be covered by the local market.

Of the \$1.5 billion requirement for 2004, the government had already raised about \$100 million, but mostly from the sale of \$1.5 billion worth of long-term bonds.

Reyes said that Philippine Government helped businesses and security authorities would provide the national government. Increasing of its requirements and the state's new will be successful.

But Finance Secretary Danilo Reyes said the government did not want to. Reyes said the government did not want to. Reyes said the government did not want to.



# 4 firms offer help to sell LBP NPLs

By Charles S. Batson

FOUR foreign financial groups have offered their distressed expertise to the Local Bank of the Philippines to help it dispose of some \$200 million in bad loans and nonperforming assets under review.

These foreign groups were identified as Credit Guarantee S.A., Seoul & Hong Kong, SMBC, Mitsubishi and Woori Finance Group.

The disposal of the PNB loans is non-performing loans would bring down LBP's nonperforming loans to around 10% of total assets.

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close to financial adviser within the next few weeks.

Since & Hong is the financial adviser of the National Bank of the Philippines, it is likely that the group would have had some experience in helping with the process.

SMBC and Woori Finance, on the other hand, are well-known experts in the restructuring of bad loans in emerging markets.

A well-known disposal of bad loans would allow the LBP to sell its NPLs in small amounts to its investors.

The financial adviser would also coordinate the sale of PNB loans to its investors and PNB loans in Japan and other countries.

The financial adviser would also coordinate the sale of PNB loans to its investors and PNB loans in Japan and other countries.

## ICTSI profit down 28%

By Elena R. Novick

INTERNATIONAL Container Terminal Services Inc. (ICTSI), a large container port operator, reported that consolidated profit in the third quarter fell 28 percent to \$10 million from \$13.7 million year ago.

ICTSI said in a statement that it only managed to post a profit of \$10 million in the third quarter of the year, far below the \$13.7 million in profit that it reported last year.

The income last year, however, reflected the extraordinary gain of \$1.7 billion from the sale of its holding firm for container port projects to a subsidiary of Hongkong & Shanghai.

ICTSI said group-wide volume and revenue fell in the third quarter, but it was able to offset the decline with higher prices.

The company said consolidated revenue rose 21 percent to \$1.1 billion in the third quarter of the year from the same period last year.

The revenue growth was also based mostly on the consolidation of ICTSI's income from its subsidiary, Container Terminal, ICTI.

ICTI took over operations of the terminal in the Port of Callao in June this year.

During the first nine months of this year, revenue grew 21 percent to \$1.1 billion from \$1 billion in the same period last year.

Group-wide volume for the third quarter of the year increased 22 percent to 436,774 TEUs, compared to 428,774 TEUs in the same period last year.

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Company	Revenue	Profit	Assets	Liabilities	Equity
ABC Corp.	100.00	10.00	50.00	30.00	20.00
DEF Inc.	200.00	20.00	100.00	60.00	40.00
GHI Ltd.	300.00	30.00	150.00	90.00	60.00
JKL Corp.	400.00	40.00	200.00	120.00	80.00
MNO Inc.	500.00	50.00	250.00	150.00	100.00
PQR Ltd.	600.00	60.00	300.00	180.00	120.00
STU Corp.	700.00	70.00	350.00	210.00	140.00
VWX Inc.	800.00	80.00	400.00	240.00	160.00
YZA Ltd.	900.00	90.00	450.00	270.00	180.00
BCD Corp.	1000.00	100.00	500.00	300.00	200.00

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ABC Corp.	100.00	10.00	50.00	30.00	20.00
DEF Inc.	200.00	20.00	100.00	60.00	40.00
GHI Ltd.	300.00	30.00	150.00	90.00	60.00
JKL Corp.	400.00	40.00	200.00	120.00	80.00
MNO Inc.	500.00	50.00	250.00	150.00	100.00
PQR Ltd.	600.00	60.00	300.00	180.00	120.00
STU Corp.	700.00	70.00	350.00	210.00	140.00
VWX Inc.	800.00	80.00	400.00	240.00	160.00
YZA Ltd.	900.00	90.00	450.00	270.00	180.00
BCD Corp.	1000.00	100.00	500.00	300.00	200.00

## Court blocks TRO vs Tanduang

The Court of Appeals (CA) has issued a restraining order blocking the issuance of a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) by the Department of Justice (DOJ) against the Tanduang Correctional Institution.

In a two-page resolution dated Nov. 10, 2003, the appellate court said that the DOJ's attempt to issue a TRO against the Tanduang Correctional Institution is premature.

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# ARE YOU READY FOR THEM?

Find out which bands will get closer to achieving their dreams at the RX Band Breakout finals on November 15

Text by Pam Pastor and Janet Dopkin  
Photos by Remy Hernandez

**F**LASHBACK to 1999. Moroner Radio RX '99, 11 mixed Band Breakout to the amateur bands the chance

to get the major nation's best record deal.

The idea was a success. Four years later, previous winners Crown 22—2003, Asimara—2003, Justice Band—2004 have covered songs by themselves.

Other Band Breakout participants like

Best and December have also found a place in the local music industry.

This year, more 40 nation-wide by hopeful groups poured in from all over the Philippines. When bands were chosen for the semi-finals.

Then, seven groups are left: Silver Sanctuary, Hollow, Black Culture,

EWAVE, Oh My Gosh, Splinter and High Noon.

2011 spent a day with the finalists at the venue during Posing Time and Friday, making the superlative you get group.

There were only different kinds of music, they may have different names on the

but the finalists show a lot of things—there's passion for music, there's strong bond with each other and the determination to succeed.

The RX Band Breakout Grand Final will be on Nov. 15, 4 p.m. at the Robinsons Galleria, International Affairs 2, 3rd.

PHOTO



## A stunning spectacle

The strength of *Matrix Revolutions* is that it packs an impossibly complex universe into a fairly tight story

By Jeffrey Labrecque  
JMI Correspondent

**B**UT WHY, it should be pretty clear. If you're invested in one of the previous installments of "The Matrix," you'd be lost in the final chapter. If you're not, the previous ones, a few dozen without watching "Revolutions" will be wasted hours. You might still end up confused.

If you're fortunate enough to be in the game (metaphorically) yourself in the movie several times, and follow "Revolutions" to the end, you stand a chance of seeing the conclusion of the Matrix universe and understanding "Revolutions."

The last installment is as different from the first two movies as it could get, possibly with more time devoted to the end world than both in previous installments. The way to

ALTERNATIVE

## 10 reasons 'Matrix Revolutions' sucked

By Adrian Dy  
JMI Correspondent

**H**AWK successfully finished the Game of the Thrones: How certain every character would be given a moment of glory, the third portion of the Matrix trilogy ended with a whimper.

The second installment, "Matrix Reloaded," added much to the Matrix series and its characters would be given a moment of glory. The third portion of the Matrix trilogy ended with a whimper.

In hindsight, we shouldn't have bothered watching them.

### Underused characters

Yes, a lot of them died. The Matrix series

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